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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of :
Jan Abraham VAN ASSELT : Group Art Unit: 3711
Serial No.: 09/980,092 : Examiner: A. Hunter
Filed: February 11, 2002 : Attorney Docket: 115692-00101
For: BALL GAME APPARATUS :

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 30 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER P3700

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of July 25, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

- (1) **Amendments to the specification** are shown on page 3 of this paper.
- (2) **Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begin on page 4 of this paper.
- (3) **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding Office Action and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited in view of the amendments and accompanying remarks. In the event that any issues remain that can be overcome most easily through a telephone communication, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

In order to render the filing of this paper timely, filed concurrently herewith is a Petition for three-months extension of time, together with a check in the amount of \$475 to cover the requisite fee for a small entity. Also filed herewith is a Notice of Appeal.

DO NOT ENTER 2/6/04

Serial Number: 09/980,092
Group Art Unit: 3711

Please charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment thereof, to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (115692-00101). If a petition for extension of time is required to render this submission timely and either is not filed concurrently herewith or does not suffice to render this submission timely, the Applicant hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for such an extension for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 26, 2004